

Mary's Treachery to Scotland.

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the French war with England and Spain in response to the summons of Henry II. The lords would not hear of a declaration of war against England, and, though they allowed her to assemble a large army at Kelso as a precautionary measure, they would on no account cross the Border and begin hostilities. She was therefore forced to disband the army and confine operations to petty Border skirmishes.

In these circumstances, it was highly advisable to hasten the marriage of the young queen with the Dauphin, arranged by the Treaty of Haddington ten years before, and thus perchance rouse Scotland out of its sullen and suspicious mood, and secure its more active espousal of French interests. In response to the French king's request, the Scottish Parliament consented to send commissioners to represent Scotland at the ceremony. It charged them to obtain as a preliminary the ratification of the Treaty of Haddington, which guaranteed the ancient laws, liberties, and privileges of Scotland, and the recognition of the next heir by right of blood (Arran) in case of the queen's death without issue. These stipulations were ostensibly agreed to in a series of documents signed by Mary, the Dauphin, and Henry II. A few days before her marriage the young queen solemnly obliged herself to preserve "the laws, liberties, and privileges of the kingdom of Scotland to all and every one of her subjects." Some days after the ceremony she repeated the engagement in conjunction with her husband, the Dauphin, as King of Scotland. As if to leave no back door out of these solemn agreements, Henry II. himself and his son gave their written promise to maintain the rights of Scotland, as stipulated, and the succession of the next heir to the Scottish throne in the event of the queen's death without issue. It is hardly credible that, in spite of these solemn public protestations, the young queen had beforehand agreed to certain private stipulations, which rendered the foregoing, in certain eventualities, utterly worthless. In the first place, in the event of her death without issue, she freely gifted her Scottish kingdom to the King of France. In the second place, she pledged that kingdom to her father-in-law as a guarantee of the repayment of the sums he had incurred on its behalf. In the third place, she protested that, all agreements to the contrary notwithstanding, these

grants should have full